

Montague Conservation Commission

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MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 8, 2014 – 6:30 pm

Second Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA

Commissioners Present: Mark Fairbrother - Chair, Sean Werle, Donna Francis, Alex Peterkin and Addie Rose Holland

Commissioners Absent: Deb Picking and Justin Fermann

Staff Present: Walter Ramsey

Mark Fairbrother called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

Approval of April 10, 2014 Minutes:

Motion made by Sean Werle to accept the April 10, 2014 minutes. Seconded by Addie Rose Holland. ***Motion passed.***

Continuation of Public Hearing: Notice of Intent #2014-02- filed by MassDOT (DEP file#229-236) for proposed reconstruction of Hatchery Road from Greenfield Road to Turners Falls Road; improvements to Greenfield Road and Turners Falls Road; and the construction of a shared-use pedestrian-bicycle path and bridge over the railroad at the former Greenfield Road crossing site. Associated project activities include drainage system improvements and other minor site improvements.

Guests: Sean Hale - Epsilon Associates, Inc. and Chris Sawyer-Lucanno – Montague Reporter

Sean Hale reported since the last Conservation meeting that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) issued a file number of 229-236; they had no comments. Natural Heritage and Endangered Species (NHESP) commented and sent a *no take* letter under MESA as well as a confirmation of *no take* under estimated habitat under the wetlands protection jurisdiction.

The commission reviewed standard draft conditions prepared by the Agent. Mark Fairbrother would like to have advance notice (48 hours) before the project begins and have that modification written into the Order of Conditions. Agent will put this modification into the final Order of Conditions before sending it out.

Motion made by Sean Werle to issue an Order of Conditions for NOI # 2014-02 filed by MassDOT with the modification that the Conservation Commission gets 48 hour advance notice before the project begins. Seconded by Donna Francis. ***Motion passed.***

Request for Certificate of Compliance for Notice of Intent #2009-01 by Denise Coyne –Greenfield Savings Bank for construction of a bank branch within 100 feet of a bordering vegetated wetland.

The construction of the Greenfield Savings Bank was considered a buffer zone only project with storm water management review. Walter Ramsey did a site visit this week at the bank and everything appears to be functioning well at the branch location. The engineer on the project was S.K Kimberly

Engineering out of Colrain, MA. They have submitted a letter confirming that Renaissance Excavating built to the plan specifications.

Motion made by Addie Rose Holland to issue a certificate of compliance for NOI #2009-01 DEP file 229-223 for Greenfield Savings Bank. Seconded by Donna Francis. **Motion passed.**

Agent Updates:

There will be some upcoming Notice of Intent projects including: the South Street Bridge (new design for river flow) and the Bridge abutments near North Street recreational area. Both of these projects have been prepared by Wesson and Sampson Engineers on behalf of the Franklin Conservation District.

Lake Pleasant has some conservation land available which has been offered to the Planning & Conservation Department to put it into protection (Assessors Map 37 Lot 142) . Walter Ramsey shared a map of the area for the Commission to review. The commission did not recommend pursuing at this time.

Motion made by Addie Rose Holland to adjourn the meeting Seconded by Sean Werle. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:49 PM

Approved by: _____ Date: _____